

GUARD TO MARCH ON MEMORIAL DAY

Large Representation Expected in Line.

BACKSTOP BIDS TOO HIGH

War Department Wants Estimate of Value of Local Militia in Time of Strife.

Preparations are being made by the District militiamen for participation in the Memorial Day exercises to be conducted in Washington by the Department of the Potomac, G. A. R. Gen. George H. Harries has received an invitation from Commander A. P. Tasker. It is likely a large representation will be in line on May 30. Unless the Guard finds itself the possessor of a considerable sum of money obtained unexpectedly, which, added to the \$1,100 appropriated by Congress for the setting up of backstops at the rifle range of the Guard, will amount to \$2,434, the sum demanded by McKay & Morris, the only firm who submitted a bid for the contract this morning, this year's rifle practice will, in all probability, be conspicuous for its absence.

Bids Entertained. Owing to the complaints of residents on Congress Heights and Hamilton road, who declared last summer that their safety was constantly imperiled by stray bullets shot by poor marksmen, it was ordered that the Guard must either find a more secluded spot for the continuance of their rifle practice or fit the range on Hamilton road with backstops.

For this purpose Congress appropriated \$1,100, and April 15 the first bids for the contract were received. Three contractors sent in estimates, the lowest being \$2,370. Col. Lloyd M. Brett, adjutant general of the Guard, has received an order from the office of the Military Secretary, War Department, to submit at the earliest convenience a detailed report on the strength of the citizen-soldiery. He has also been instructed to state the condition of the militia, its preparedness for actual service in case of war, as well as the regulations and formations of the organization.

Value in War Time. That the object of the report is to estimate the value of the services of the local Guard in time of strife can be plainly seen from the following order which General Brett has in hand:

"Particular attention should be given to the terms of the militia bill of 1903 and to the necessity of effecting such a change in the laws and regulations of the District of Columbia as shall cause them to conform within the shortest possible period to those of the regular and volunteer armies of the United States.

"It is desired that you give full information touching methods of administration, arms, equipment, instruction, discipline, time required for mobiliza-

tion at such strategic points within the District of Columbia as seem most important to you, and a classified list of articles required to enable the entire force to take the field, completely equipped in all respects for sixty days' service, and the percentage of each command that can be relied upon for service outside of the District of Columbia for that period."

Throughout the past week the company rifle matches on the range were closed. The shooting was done on Monday and Tuesday evenings, and Major James E. Bell, inspector general of rifle practice, is well pleased with the scores. The distance was 500 yards, the scores at 200 and 300 yards having been fired sev-

eral weeks previous. Major Bell gave out the following figures as the scores of the teams for 500 yards:

Company	Score	Team	Score
Co. F, First Regiment	193	500 yds. totals	592
Co. G, First Regiment	185		522
Co. I, First Regiment	231		673
Co. K, First Regiment	221		590
Co. C, Second Regiment	200		605
Co. D, Second Regiment	175		551
Co. E, Second Regiment	215		640
Co. G, Second Regiment	195		520
Co. H, Second Regiment	204		575
Co. I, Second Regiment	220		637
Co. K, Second Regiment	219		604
Co. A, First Sep. Bat.	217		587
Co. B, First Sep. Bat.	175		484
Co. C, First Sep. Bat.	205		555
Co. D, First Sep. Bat.	187		530
First Division, Naval	208		665



EASTER HATS

A Few of the Quaint Craft That Will Be Launched Today.

—From Philadelphia Inquirer.

POOH-BAH TAFT TOO BUSY TO EAT

Man of Multifarious Duties, Who Is Now Running the Government and Sitting on the Lid, Has No Time to Waste at Luncheon.

Secretary Taft doesn't eat any midday lunch. At least he doesn't when he has anything important to do—and he most always has.

This is one of the peculiarities of the now acting President Secretary of State Taft, and Secretary of War which has become generally known to Government officials recently.

Secretary Taft's three-pronged role which he is now playing has brought him into touch with many different departments. Men associated with him in running the Government have had their eyes opened to the marvelous capacity for work of the robust and jovial Secretary of War.

Steam Engine for Work.

"He is a regular steam engine for work," said one of these officials the other day. "I have never seen a man who plunged into affairs of the Government with such vim and disposed of the thousand and one details that daily occupy his mind in such a tremendously rapid and thorough fashion."

For several weeks past Secretary Taft has never once left his office in the War Department to go to lunch. Rarely does he ever leave the building from the time he reaches it in the morning at about 9:30 until 5 o'clock in the afternoon unless it is to attend a meeting or to pay an official visit.

During the hours that the Secretary is at the War Department his office is besieged with callers. Often as many as twenty-five visitors will be at one time in his ante-room, waiting for a chance to see the acting President. These visitors have no difficulty in getting to see the Secretary if their mission is of importance, but they often have to wait a long time for their turn.

Diplomats and Experts.

In addition to callers, among whom may be numbered many members of the Diplomatic Corps who now come to see him in place of the President, Secretary Taft has to hold many conferences with regard to Panama and the Philippines.

These conferences often relate to technical subjects. Experts find Mr. Taft able to meet them on their own ground.

Secretary Taft has told some of his intimates that he does not believe in the luncheon meal any way.

"When I get down to work I want to keep at it until I get rid of it," he said. "Luncheon is a superfluous meal, and it breaks up the day."

Despite the fact that Secretary Taft goes all day without eating any midday meal, except on rare occasions, he keeps in splendid health.

DR. M'GEE NOT YET IN WILDS OF ARIZONA

Has Been Detained in St. Louis Settling Up Affairs of Anthropological Department.

Many of the friends in this city of Dr. W. J. McGee will be surprised to learn that he is still in St. Louis, closing up the affairs of the anthropological department of the World's Fair, of which he was chief, and is not on the sun-baked deserts of Arizona, drinking in the health-giving ozone of that climate and subsisting on the diet of the Indians.

It was announced several weeks ago that Dr. McGee was on the verge of leaving St. Louis for Arizona, and among his former associates here it was thought that he had carried out his intentions.

To a Times reporter yesterday Dr. McGee's wife, Dr. Anita N. McGee, 1901 Baltimore street northwest, said her husband would leave St. Louis for the West on Monday of this week. His health has been poor for several years, and on former occasions he has found the climate of Arizona healthful. He will camp out and will spend the time in study and recreation. He will be accompanied by a faithful Indian friend, who has been with him during the fair, and will live a regular Indian life during the summer.

PANAMA COMMISSION TO MEET ON WEDNESDAY

The next important session of the Panama Canal Commission will be held Wednesday, when Chief Engineer Wallace will have returned from Chicago. Chairman Shonts went to New York last night, to be gone until Wednesday morning.

Chairman Shonts and Secretary Dominic Murphy will sail for Panama, May 13, to establish the headquarters of the commission on the Isthmus.

ROMANTIC.

"How romantic it would be," said the girl with the blue eyes, "for one to have a big, strong, and handsome lover almost killed in an automobile wreck or something and then taken to a hospital, only to toss in delirium and call one's name; and for one to go to him and comfort him, and marry him while he lay pale and helpless on his cot."

"Wouldn't it be beautiful!" said the brown eyed girl.

"And," concluded the blue eyed girl, "have all the nurses just dying with envy."—Brooklyn Life.

A Contest of Woman's Wits

\$500 in Prizes—\$500 in Prizes

Only Women Are Eligible to Compete

Every Woman Reader of The Washington Sunday Times Has an Equal Chance in the Competition

The Prizes

First Prize	\$250
Second Prize	\$100
Third Prize	\$50
Fourth Prize	\$25
Fifth Prize	\$15
Sixth Prize	\$10
Seventh Prize	\$10
Eighth Prize	\$10
Ninth Prize	\$10
Tenth Prize	\$10
Eleventh Prize	\$10

Can You Solve This Puzzle?

The following queer inscription is said to be found in the chancel of a small church in Wales, just over the Ten Commandments. The addition of a single letter, repeated at various intervals, renders it not only intelligible, but appropriate to the situation:

P R S V R Y P R F C T M N
V R K P T H S P R C P T S T N

What is the missing letter?

The above will be the first in a series of Puzzles to be printed in The Washington Sunday Times

The series will be continued until all the competitors except one have failed to send in correct answers.

That one will win the chief prize of \$250.

Those who stay next longest in the competition will win the other prizes in their order.

The conditions are simple and fair, but read them carefully.

The Conditions

Qualifying for the Contest

Five puzzles each Sunday for five Sundays will be printed in the Sunday Times.

Competitors must send correct solutions of 14 of these 25 in order to qualify for the contest. The correct answers to the puzzles will be printed on the Sunday following, so that competitors can tell their standing.

Answers must reach the Puzzle Editor, Washington Sunday Times, on or before Wednesday following the Sunday on which the puzzles are printed.

The Contest

After the close of the 25 puzzles described above one puzzle will be printed each Sunday.

A card catalogue of contestants who have qualified will be kept.

When a contestant sends in an incorrect answer to a puzzle or fails to send in any answer her name will be dropped from the list.

The answers to each puzzle will be printed on the following Sunday.

Answers must reach the Puzzle Editor, Washington Sunday Times, on or before the Wednesday following the publication of the puzzle.

Should competitors be tied for any places the amount of the highest prize involved will be paid to each.